

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, October 18, 2000

The House met at 4 p.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord, sometimes we are bewildered by what occurs around us. Forgive us, if we think our difficulties are so extraordinary. The fear of pain reveals us as human. We are vulnerable when anticipating troublesome times.

If we are to suffer, Lord, let it not be for our misdeeds, mistaken judgments or because we have infringed on the rights of others. If any one of us is suffering, let there be no disgrace.

You reveal Yourself as the God of compassion, You are close to all who suffer. Be their strength that in Your name, they may persevere in seeking justice and doing what is right.

Even the weakest among us, by being faithful, can give You glory now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GILMAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1066. An act to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to encourage the use of and research into agricultural best practices to improve the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 1109. An act to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1482. An act to amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-65, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, and in consultation with the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the National Military Museum:

John G. Campbell, of Virginia.

Henriette V. Warfield, of Virginia.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 18, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 18, 2000, at 9:27 a.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2296.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5212.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 428.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH,
Clerk of the House.

UNITED NATIONS CONSIDERING RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL REGARDING ONGOING VIOLENCE IN MIDDLE EAST

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, most of our colleagues are fully aware that Israel is being treated abysmally at the hands of the United Nations, principally in the General Assembly. Regrettably, the Palestinians have promoted and have adopted anti-Israel and anti-peace process resolutions.

Today, unfortunately, is no different. Despite UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's recent statement that, "words can inflame or soothe, and everyone needs a restoration of calm and quiet so as to create the best possible atmosphere for resumption of peace talks," the UN General Assembly is presently in an emergency session in which they will be considering, despite U.S. opposition, a resolution condemning Israel

regarding the ongoing violence in the Middle East.

As our U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Richard Holbrooke, stated, "the General Assembly wants to beat up on Israel" once again. It sounds to me that it is similar to the UN's "Zionism is Racism" resolutions of old. Accordingly, I urge our colleagues to join in condemning this latest act of incitement at the UN.

CHINA BOLDLY TRYING TO PICK OUR PRESIDENT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, news reports say a Chinese spokesman said, "America is our enemy, and we must prepare to fight them." Now, if that is not enough to infuriate Ronald Reagan, the spokesman further stated, "China does not want to see George Bush get elected." He said, "Bush will support and bolster Taiwan, and Bush will, in fact, build a missile shield around America, weakening China." I say that is a compliment to George Bush.

Because think about it, last election, China got away with funneling cash illegally to the Democratic National Committee. No investigation. This time they are boldly trying to pick our President. Beam me up, Congress. It is time to mandate an independent investigation into this Chinese business.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the lessons we should have learned at Pearl Harbor.

NATIONAL SECURITY THREATENED BY A LETTER

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. The Clinton-Gore administration is illegally threatening vital national security interests of the American public.

This time the illegality involved a letter written by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to Vice President GORE about a secret, illegal nuclear arms deal with an unidentified terrorist nation "that was not to be conveyed to third parties, including the United States Congress."

Yes, sadly, Vice President GORE kept his promise to the Russian Prime Minister instead of his promise to the American public.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.